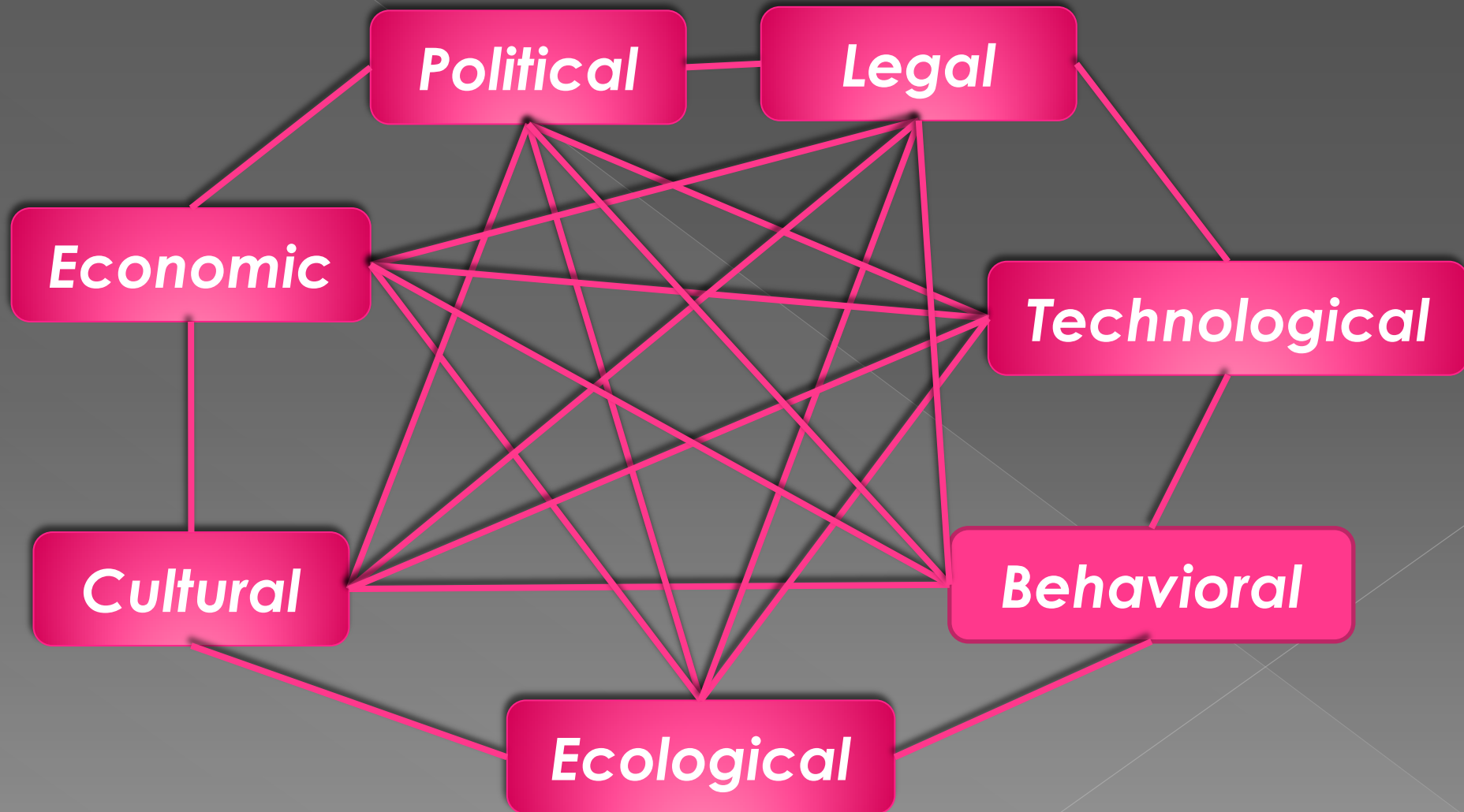


# Matrix - Sustainability

## War & Religion

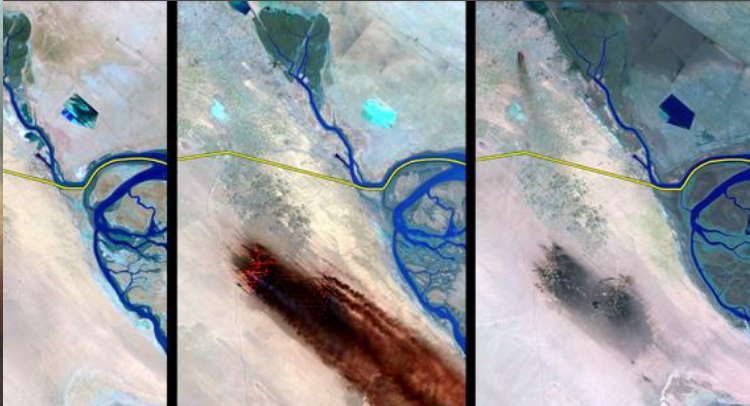
Thomas Hartmann

# Dimensions

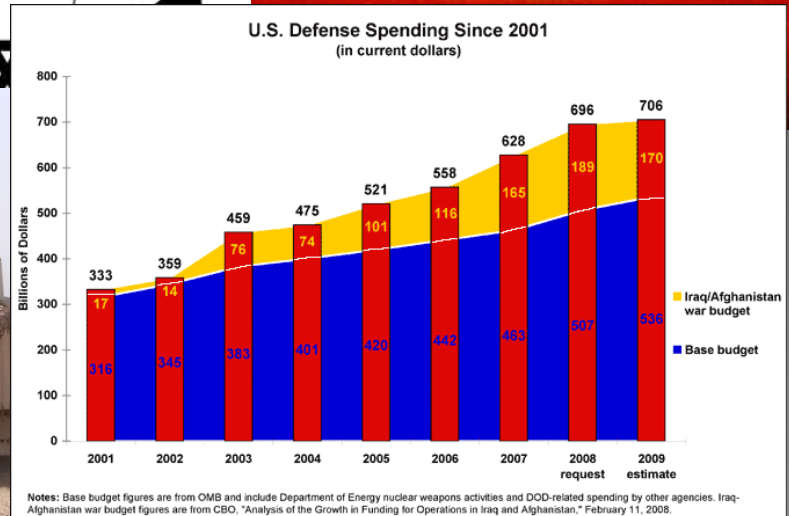
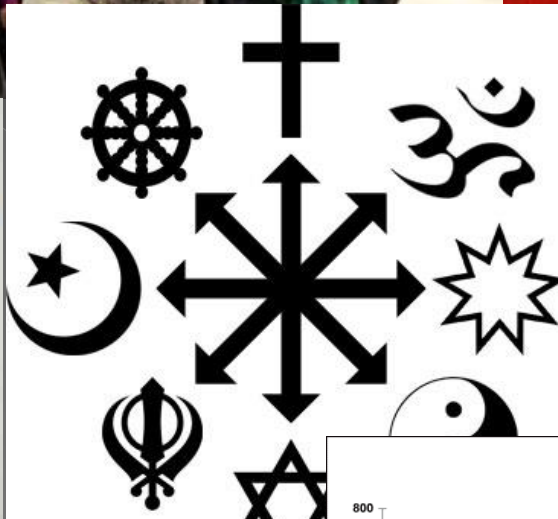


*WAR*









# Caption

These images describe many of the complex relationships that war has with dimensions such as economics, the environment, sustainability, human health, society, religion, and technology.

## **First Slide**

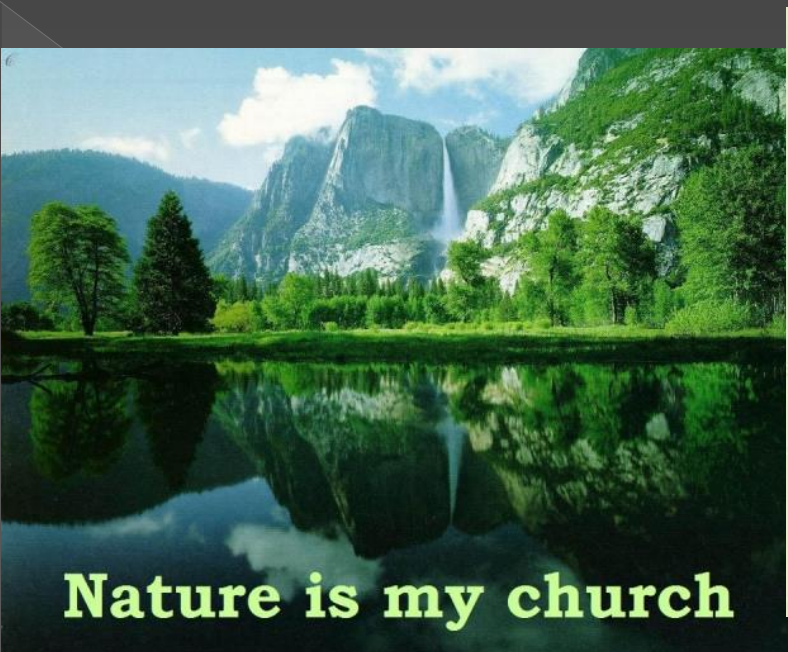
The first row of images shows the environmental destruction caused by the release of oil into the Red Sea and oil wells that were lit on fire by Iraqi forces in the 1991 Gulf War. The second row shows the deforestation caused by the use of Agent Orange in the Vietnam War and the human health impact that it has on those exposed. The image in the bottom left shows a land mine, which is a threat to humans and the environment both during and after a war. The image in the bottom right shows an area of bare land, which significantly increases as a result of war, along with a decline of productive agricultural area.

## **Second Slide**

The image in the top left shows an example of the direct threat that war has on human safety. In the top center is an image refugees, which are displaced during war and put significant strain on the resources available in that area. The image in the top right shows a combatant, which often linger after a war has ended, preventing society and culture from returning to normal. The image in the middle left shows an example of natural resource scarcity, which is both a cause and consequence of war. The tank in the bottom center consumes a significant amount of fuel, contributing to pollution, carbon emissions, and depletion of oil. The image in the center represents how religion is often interwoven into the motivation of war and civil unrest. The nuclear explosion and drone represent the involvement of science, engineering, and technology. The graph of the United States defense spending in the bottom right shows the economic cost of both fighting a war and maintaining a military during peace.

*RELIGION*





addiction





**PRODUCTIVITY**



??????  
**SUSTAINABILITY**  
??????



If you change  
**NOTHING,**  
nothing  
will  
change.



# Caption

These images describe many of the complex relationships that religion has with dimensions such as society, culture, sustainability, the environment, and economics.

## **First Slide**

Religion must provide a deeper meaning to sustainability. However, this is difficult because the earth is inherently unsustainable. The image of a mutated frog, caused by human produced chemicals in the environment, raises the question of whether or not it matters that humans cause an extinction of a species if that species would eventually go extinct regardless of humans. The image of the symbols for Judaism, Islam, and Christianity represents the underlying ideas such as separation of humans from nature and that natural resources were made to be consumed that contribute to environmental and sustainability problems. In particular, the remaining images show the problems with capitalism such as addiction to consumption and confusing of wants and needs.

## **Second Slide**

Often, religion preaches that productivity and progress is good, which is in directly conflict with sustainability. However, the quote, "If you change nothing, nothing will change," describes how there is a disconnect between human attitude and human behavior that must be addressed by religion because it is preventing progress towards environmental protection and sustainability. Roger S. Gottlieb argues that religion must get past "our addictive psychology, lust for power, fascination with technology and ease, and plain moral laziness." Further, religion and war are often closely connected. For example, many wars in the past have been over conflicts in religious views. This is most apparent today in the Middle East. Another example is the Holocaust, which was motivated primarily by hatred of Jews. However, this mixed message that religion is conveying must be addressed. On one hand, religion is often a motivating factor in conflict, while on the other hand, it promotes peace and combating poverty.



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# Image Links (War)

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- ◉ [http://www.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/landsat/news/40th-top10-kuwait.html](http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/landsat/news/40th-top10-kuwait.html)
- ◉ <http://www.zmescience.com/ecology/environmental-issues/agent-orange-amazon-forest-314354/>
- ◉ <http://canadianlandmine.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/landmines.jpg>
- ◉ <http://propertyshopzambia.com/listing/p1086-vacant-land-kapiri-mposhi/>
- ◉ <http://cryptome.org/info/im01/iraq-maim01.htm>
- ◉ <http://www.enduringamerica.com/home/2010/11/25/complications-of-war-jordan-and-the-iraqi-refugees.html>
- ◉ <http://kitup.military.com/2014/02/soldiers-war-modify-m4-boost-reliability.html>
- ◉ <http://mentalfloss.com/article/19768/6-crises-keep-economists-night>
- ◉ <http://religiouswar.org/>
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- ◉ <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2012/mar/11/gchq-staff-war-crimes-drones>
- ◉ <http://eofdreams.com/photo/tank/05/>

# Image Links (Religion)

- <http://www.encognitive.com/node/18990>
- [http://first2.plantbiology.msu.edu/resources/inquiry\\_activities/frog\\_activity.htm](http://first2.plantbiology.msu.edu/resources/inquiry_activities/frog_activity.htm)
- <http://truecapitalist.wikia.com/wiki/Capitalism>
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- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abrahamic\\_religions](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abrahamic_religions)
- <http://www.mentalhealthy.co.uk/addiction>
- <http://www.npr.org/blogs/parallels/2013/05/16/180045066/Women-In-Combat-Lessons-From-The-Israel-Defense-Forces>
- <http://www.operationworld.org/country/isra/owtext.html>
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- [http://www.thepersonaldevelopmentcompany.com/5-Ways-To-Increase-Productivity-In-Your-Business\\_b\\_113.html](http://www.thepersonaldevelopmentcompany.com/5-Ways-To-Increase-Productivity-In-Your-Business_b_113.html)
- <http://www.greenbiz.com/blog/2013/03/25/what-sustainability-anyway>
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